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LOCAL NOTICES.

For Lease.

The large and well known furniture warehouse and showroom, in Smithfield street, will be leased to any energetic business man. Apply to A. Iseman, of Joseph Iseman & Son, next door to Simon Johnston, corner Smithfield and Fourth avenue.

Barnett's Carcoline,

Cheaper than oleomargarine at Jos. Fleming's, 81 Market street. TTS

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"Seeley's Hard Rubber Truss" radically cures Rupture. Never frosts, breaks nor wilts. Used and worn bathing. Comfort, safety and durability combined. R. L. Fahnestock & Co., Agents. Sold by all Druggists. TTS

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A new, double House, with over two acres of ground, at Homewood. Apply to R. H. Thompson, Commercial office. tf

The Single Comb

At Jos. Fleming's, 81 Market street. TTS

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Brooklyn Standard White Lead.

The best in the market for the least money. Satisfaction guaranteed or money refunded. Sole agents for Pittsburgh, McClurran & McKenna, Druggists and dealers in Paints, Dry and Mixed Linseed Oil, Turpentine, Varnish and Brushes at prices lower than the lowest. tf

The Greatest Variety

of soaps and Perfumery in the city at Jos. Fleming's, 81 Market street. TTS

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Received this week at Pittock's, opposite Postoffice.

Hitchcock's Half Dime Music, from No. 1 to 36 at Pittock's, opposite Postoffice.

Appleton's Journal, Nos. 1, 2 and 3, now ready, at Pittock's, opposite Postoffice.

Chromos at cost, to close them out, at Pittock's, opposite Postoffice. Initial Paper from A to Z.

Stereoscopic Views of all parts of the world, at Pittock's, opposite Postoffice.

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Providence, R. I., Sterling Silver Ware and fine Electro-Plated Ware. This Company, having the most extensive and complete plant of any house in the world, and employing the best talent in designing, modelling and finishing, are, with the aid of ingenious and labor saving machinery, enabled to produce in large quantities, and at the lowest prices, goods beautiful in design and unsurpassed in finish, the fineness of which they guarantee to be of sterling purity U. S. Mint assay. A full line of the above goods in all articles in silver for the purpose of protecting purchasers from imitations of their designs. They name over their goods, which are well-known and unrivalled "Nickel-Silver Electro-Plated Ware," and warrant for five years with fair everyday usage.

Orders received from the trade only, but these goods may be obtained from responsible dealers everywhere.

Trade Mark for SILVER. Trade Mark for Electro-Plate. GOETZE MFG CO

TTSsu

FIRST EDITION.

12 O'CLOCK, M.

HARRISBURG.

Commutation of Death Penalty.

The Bill Therefor Vetoed by the Governor—The Free Pipe and Other Bills Reported Negatively —Local Bills Passed—The Extra Officers' Pay Resolution Indefinitely Postponed in the Senate—The Pleasant Valley Railway Extension.

Special Dispatch to the Pittsburgh Press.

HARRISBURG, Pa., April 9, 1869.

THE SENATE.

Bills Passed.

Mr. White introduced a bill incorporating the Indiana County Monumental Society. Passed.

Mr. Connell—Incorporating the Erie and Western Transportation Company. Passed.

Mr. Naylor moved a reconsideration of the vote by which the House bill authorizing the introduction of Potomac coal to light into the Capitol and supplying instead of coal gas was defeated. Agreed to. The bill was discussed and postponed till this afternoon.

The Adjournment.

After some discussion, a resolution for final adjournment on Friday, the 16th inst., was adopted.

The bill enabling building, saving and loan associations to collect debts after the expiration of charters was passed.

Constitutional Amendment.

The joint resolution proposing a constitutional amendment changing the October election to November in every year of the Presidential election was coming up, Mr. White moving an amendment submitting this and other questions to a constitutional convention if called by the people on a vote at the next October election. Mr. Mann moved to postpone thirty delegates at large, each voter voting for fifteen, and one hundred representative delegates. Overruled as not germane, and the whole subject postponed.

Pittsburgh Gas.

The bill providing for the introduction of petrolia calcium gas lights in the public buildings and grounds, was amended by Mr. Ernett, preventing the city from issuing any more State Treasurer report to next Legislature on the sanitary and comparative cost of this and every other method.

The Extra Officers.

The gas from the House dispensing with the services of extra employees in the House and providing for their pay, was indefinitely postponed, on motion of Mr. White.

The bill regulating the salaries of officers of railway companies and preventing fraud thereon was postponed. This bill was introduced by Senator Cochran, of Pittsburgh, but Wayne & Chicago legislation.

EVENING.

Mr. Ernett had passed a bill allowing Pittsburgh Councils to change rate of taxation in Lawrenceville.

Adjourned till Monday evening.

HOUSE

The bi... which ... ninth J... tively.

The fi... negative...

The fire... pipes to ... ronde and rivers was reported negatively.

House Bills Passed.

The following House bills were passed:

Extending the jurisdiction of certain Justices of the Peace in Allegheny county to Pittsburgh.

Supplement authorizing Pittsburgh Councils by ordinance to change mile tax in Lawrenceville from year to year to not less than one nor more than five mills to pay indebtedness of said borough.

Requiring the Monongahela Bridge Company, Bridgeport, to light the bridge with gas.

Incorporating the Medical and Surgical Hospital, Johnstown.

Incorporating East Sandy Pipe Company, Venango county.

Incorporating the Charley and Shaffer Run Fishing Company.

The following Senate bills have passed:

Granting pension to Daniel Ballis, of Fayette, a soldier of 1812.

Authorizing Courts to remove delinquent sheriffs in Allegheny county.

Incorporating the Uniontown and Waynesburg Railroad.

Incorporating the Young Men's Christian Association, of Pittsburgh.

Authorizing Pittsburgh borough to vote for or against liquor licenses.

A Veto.

The Governor to-day vetoed the bill authorizing him to commute the death penalty to imprisonment for life. He declined that in accordance with his recommendation in his last annual message, wherein a desire was expressed simply to commute death penalty in six cases distinctly specified, he thinks an improvement so ameliorating circumstances might justify and demand.

EVENING.—Mr. Humphries called up the supplement for the Fairmount Street and Pleasant Valley Passenger Railroad, and substituted a new bill extending the road from the terminus in Allegheny City to the corner of Hand and Liberty streets, Pittsburgh. Passed finally.

Mr. Miller introduced a supplement for the Pittsburgh Board of Health, authorizing it to declare the kind of vehicles and instruments used in emptying and carrying away contents of cesspools, and controls the time of removal and place of deposit.

Mr. Hunter—A bill amending the act of 1867, fixing the number of officers of the House and Senate, by allowing the officers the same mileage as members is said.

The Registry bill passed finally under operation of the previous question.

The bill allowing parties to contract for interest at seven per cent., was defeated, year to nays 6.

Special Election at Columbia, Ind.

Special Dispatch to the Pittsburgh Commercial.

INDIANAPOLIS, Ind., April 9, 1869.

The special election on Monday last resulted as follows, according to full returns just received: Cotton, the regular nominee, was re-elected by a majority of 72 votes over Adams, Independent Democrat. The number of votes polled for Cotton last October was 1,691; the number polled at this election was 1,301, showing a loss of 390. Adams received 901 votes. The platform on which Cotton stood was that in case the negro suffrage amendment was again taken up he would oppose resign, Adams standing by himself to remain until the regular time of the session.

WASHINGTON.

The Pacific Railway Contest.

The Quarrel Ended by Consolidation of the Two Companies—The Roads to be Completed This Month—Promontory Point the Place of Union—The Investigation by Government to Go On—The Louisville Canal Improvement.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

WASHINGTON, D. C., April 9, 1869.

The Pacific Railroads.

The Railroad Committee of the House had rather a stormy meeting this morning, and finally agreed to ask the passage of a joint resolution that no bonds should be issued to either the Union Pacific or Central Pacific for the eighty mile sections between Ogden and Monument Point till Congress had fixed the place for the junction of the two roads. Before the committee got ready to bring the resolution in for action, the agents and representatives of the two companies got together to see if something could not be done to remove all cause for further quarreling. The result of the conference was that preliminary steps were initiated for a consolidation of the two lines, and in the course of the afternoon writings were drawn up and signed. The points of agreement cannot be got hold of and the officers say they will not be given to the public at present. It is given out, however, that the junction will be made at Promontory Point between Ogden and Monument Point; that both companies are to put all their energies into the business of pushing on the road to completion, and that a connection will be made and the through line opened by the 1st of July next month. This agreement, if carried out, ends all rivalry between the two companies, though it does not affect the New York suits against the Union Pacific and does not relieve Congress or Government from the necessity of looking into the manner in which the work on the roads has been done. The railroad bill passed by the Senate this evening, in so far as relates to the two roads, is now dead, and will not be re-moved. Three days of next week will be assigned in the delivery of opinions, of which there are understood to be about forty, and on Thursday the Court adjourns to the first Monday of October.

The Louisville Canal.

Senator Morton is of the opinion that the River and Harbor bill, as it now stands, will enable the Secretary of War to provide for the continuance of the work on the Louisville Canal as he desires.

Reported Favorably.

In the executive session this afternoon, the Finance Committee reported favorably upon Wetmore, Collector of Customs, at New York, T. T. Shaw, Assessor Second District. At the next executive session, which will be in the course of the night or early in the morning, 9th will be considered.

The Pacific Railroad Investigation.

The result of the long debate on the Pacific Railroad bill was reached at 1859 to-night. The provisions for examination into the affairs of the roads are stricken out, and the bill finally passed in the form of the first of Ogden, or until the final completion and acceptance of the work by the Government, provided, that nothing contained in this resolution shall be construed as limiting upon the question involved in this investigation, or affecting the rights of the United States to foreclose the mortgages of the United States should be issued to the Union Pacific Railroad Company for

The Daily Commercial.

SATURDAY, APRIL 10, 1869.

We understand that reports of extreme feebleness which have been put in circulation lately in regard to the Secretary's health are exaggerations. While his health is and for some time has been far from strong, of late he has been improving, and hopes are entertained that he will shortly emerge from the seclusion that his complaint has rendered necessary.

THE documents in the HALE PERRY affair so given to the public show heavily upon Mr. HALE, who has abused his position and disgraced himself and the Government. It seems that he was so fully occupied with money-making that he scarcely took pains to conceal his violation of the laws of Spain, and the obligations he assumed in accepting his mission. The least that the Government can do in this case is to send a man to Madrid who will counteract the impression created by the present Minister.

EATON, the man who was hung in Philadelphia on Thursday, just before he was swung off, referring to the killing, said: "So help me God, I did not do it." Now if he really did speak the truth, what can be said of the advocates of a code that sheds innocent blood? A man's liberty and property can be restored if unjustly taken away, but when life is taken there can be no restitution. It is not strange, therefore, that reflecting minds should seriously doubt the wisdom of a code that can in any case inflict such terrible and irreparable injustice.

THE members of the House, we are told, are out of all patience with the Senate for indulging in pointless speeches. That body, with from two to three hundred members present, contrives to accomplish more in the same time than the Senate, where more than fifty are seldom present. Those members who are out of patience with the talkative disposition of Senators, can now appreciate the feelings of the people. Every year added to the life of the nation renders it more trying for the people to listen to the unendurable speeches. The sooner our representatives recognize this fact, the better it will be for themselves and the country.

No Senator in so short a time and so unexpectedly ever made himself so famous as SPRAGUE, of Rhode Island. The commander of the day has come to be, What is he driving at? No one seems to know--not even himself, it is believed; and each day adds to the mystery. For instance, on Wednesday he delivered himself as follows: "My position has been selected. My flanks are both well covered. My infantry is in line of battle. My artillery has been assigned to my position. But my shell, canister and grape are behind, in consequence of the unfavorable state of the roads. I shall be ready to-morrow to go into battle." The little man then withdrew, saluted with roars of laughter from the other Senators.

ST. LOUIS is making great efforts to establish an ocean trade with New Orleans, and with the view of drawing the grain trade there a number of citizens propose to organize an association for the purchase of grain and shid the same to eastern and foreign markets by water in opposition to Chicago. The success of this scheme depends in a good degree on the action of the railroads in fixing their tariff of freights. It has been shown that grain can be shipped from St. Louis direct to New York and foreign ports, at an advantage over the rail and Lake routes from Chicago. The competition promises favorable results to the producers, to say the least.

SECRETARY BOUTWELL is not likely to remain long at the head of the Navy Department. He accepted the position with extreme reluctance, and probably would have declined it altogether but for the promised assistance of Admiral PORTER in performing the duties. It probably is not altogether a figure of speech that the Admiral has thus far had a good deal more to say than the Secretary himself, and not in every respect in the wisest manner either. The result is, a considerable dissatisfaction exists about the way the Department is administered, and the President is receiving no little annoyance for the absence of a capable, experienced and independent head of that important branch of the public service; a want that is likely to be supplied through the early resignation of the present Secretary.

THE State appropriation bill is still in the hands of the Conference Committee, and the people are awaiting the report with some considerable interest. There are two questions before the committee, in which the public are especially interested. The first is, whether the Committee will agree to the appropriation including the pay of the House supernumeraries, which involves the backing down of the Senate from its original action, refusing to legalize the extravagance of the House. The second question is, whether the committee will agree to the amendment of Senator BRUCE, proposing to anticipate the payment of the public indebtedness, whereby the State will save a large sum in interest and cause a reduction of nearly a million of dollars of the debt. This latter proposition is so eminently wise and just that the people will want to know the objections, if there should be any, why it was not--

and Tennessee Ghost is "swinging around the circle," and has got as far as Murfreesboro. Ghosts are proverbially assiduous and assuming, but the presumption of the Tennessee Ghost at Knoxville in disclosing the subject of "Moses" and the emancipation proclamation, excels anything outside of BENJAMIN'S hobgobbin tales. Said the Ghost:

> "A word or two upon the subject of Moses. I want those who talk so much about him to understand that I, myself, was the original Moses. I was the first President Johnson. I was the first to issue an emancipation proclamation. I, and not Abraham Lincoln, issued the first emancipation proclamation. I did away with those promises made to the Israelites. Don't you know and don't you remember that I, Moses, was assassinated? Booth, Wilkes Booth, was nothing. Your attention, if you please. And when I was assassinated, I went to Heaven, and there I found three others upon it. I question here, as I did on Nashville in the case of Lincoln's proclamation. Who did it?"

From which it will be seen that LINCOLN was nowhere compared with the Ghost, albeit the Ghost's refrain reminds us of that other refrain common to the nursery:

"Who killed Cock Robin?"

AMERICAN DIPLOMACY.

We call bel attention the other day to the fact that the wives of a number of our public men, Senators, Congressmen, and other officers of the United States, had organized a branch of the Cuban Junta at the Capitol. The meeting was held at the house of a Senator whose wife was called upon to act as the presiding officer. The same telegram informed us that Congress, in all probability, would recognize the belligerent rights of the revolutionists, that steps had been taken to prevent the departure of expeditions to aid the insurgents, and that the authorities were in a fever of anxiety lest the Peruvian monitors might be employed by the revolutionists. In the meantime, we are reminded that GEN. BANKS's resolution of a formally expressed sympathy with the revolutionists, awaits the action of the House. Here, we submit, is sufficient to puzzle the profoundest philosopher, especially if his knowledge of the arts of diplomacy is limited. Diplomacy has been defined as "the customs and rules of Ambassadors." Words, we are told, however, are changing daily in their significance. For instance, "villain," "fellow" and "impossible" are employed at the present time in a manner entirely different from that in which they were employed a hundred years ago. In like manner the word "diplomacy" is universally accepted as a synonym for all manner of double-dealing and deception. Especially is this true of the diplomacy of European Courts, where language is employed to conceal rather than to express thoughts.

There are a thousand things connected with and seemingly inseparable from the system of European governments with which the people of the United States are comparative strangers. The crowded condition of the old countries, their relative positions, traditions, conflicts and jealousies, all furnish precedents for pursuing such a course in their dealings with each other as we would not be warranted in imitating. This view of the case seems to have been directly or indirectly acknowledged by foreign powers from the moment the American Republic existed. Those governments that were disposed to look upon the Republic with favor admitted that a new order of things would result to the American continent from the successful establishment of the American Union, while those who opposed us, acknowledged in the very act a dread of innovation.

In our bargains with France, and latterly with Russia, in our settlement with Mexico, in the course we pursued concerning the occupation of Mexico by the French, and in our present negotiations with England concerning the Alabama claims, we cannot be said to have pursued the course usually adopted by European nations in their dealings with each other. We have brought, at times, public opinion heavily to bear upon governments, which other nations would have either refused to purchase or taken by force. We have said to England and France, on three several occasions, "You must come to our way of thinking immediately; we have no time to go into the merits of the question you desire to discuss, but if you are bent upon pursuing your present course, we will fight you, and when we have accomplished our object we will discuss the details afterwards." It has happened once that England refused to be guided by this short-hand style of diplomacy, and she paid dearly for her obstinacy. Now, after years spent in the discussion of the question whether a man who is once a citizen of Great Britain is always a citizen, and as such liable to be surrendered at call to the officers of that government, the English within the past six months have yielded the last point in the long discussion. When we were embarrassed by the rebellion, and NAPOLEON III. took advantage of our condition to establish an ally in our immediate neighborhood, who could prosper only through our adversity, instead of relying upon the diplomacy of the Courts, the short-hand method was again adopted by us and with marked success. The French troops were recalled from Mexico, and the diplomats were left to console each other and arrange the details as best they might.

We argue from these cases, all of which must be familiar to our readers, that there is no necessity for our grafting upon our institutions the deceitful arts which too often are employed by Princes. We are fortunately placed in such a position that enables us to maintain our dignity and independence without deception. Whatever excuses foreign powers may have for employing all manner of deceptions in their intercourse with each other, there is certainly no reason why we should imitate them, with less temptation on our part, the indulgence of a system based on double dealing would be all the more dishonest, because less excusable. We would not have an American Ambassador carry "his heart on his sleeve," but neither would we have him anxious to emulate the diplomacy taught by TALLEYRAND. We believe that the same rule that applies to the individual applies with equal force to nations, and we fail to perceive wherein we would be losers by pursuing a perfectly straightforward course in our dealings with Spain. Let us stand upright in this matter, and make no concealment of our real intentions, or the reasons that influence us either one way or the other, and leave the shuffling and lying to others less able and independent.

Low Life in New York.

Some idea of low life in New York may be obtained from the following figures presented by the Rev. VAN METER in a lecture delivered in Chicago recently. Altogether, there were in New York 40,000 prostitutes, fifty-three of which were for murder, averaging a murder to every half mile. There were 60 houses of ill fame averaging one to each block. Forty-eight thousand children were living on the streets of New York, homeless, homeless and parentless; 126 families were crowded in one single tenement building. In the Fourth ward there were 20,000 tenants in a square whose expended 20,000. In this ward 291 families live below the sidewalk, many of them below high-water mark, and often they are driven from their cellars by the high-water or lie in bed until the tide is out. At one tenement house there were 161 persons sick at one time of scarlet fever, scarlatina, measles, whooping cough, and other diseases. In this house one out of every nine died. In one possession of children two abreast and reaching eleven miles, would only equal the number who are now lying at death's door for want of proper food and nourishment.

A Case of Spontaneous Combustion.

The New Orleans *Crescent* relates a case of spontaneous combustion which occurred in that city. The victim, one *Gaston Laylay*, a Frenchman who was an excessive drinker, was known as a man of intemperate habits, one of exact in one day. Laylay became so degraded that he became a mere hanger-on at a low saloon. During one of his horrible debauches he was found in the last part of drunkenness from a can containing coal oil. The physicians who attended him were unable to divine the nature of his complaint. The victim uttered the most heart-rending screams, complained of the most excruciating pains, and died in the greatest agony. His whole frame was convulsed and slightly distorted, the body in a state of exudation, as it were, and covered with blisters, which bursting, a hot liquid of yellowish color issued from them to the floor. When death ensued the body became perfectly dried up and shrunken, and as black as charcoal. The Coroner's inquest brings out the above statement.

Filing Its Claims.

Nothing can dampen the ardor of the Chicagoans, or induce them to desist, even for a short season, from blowing their own horns. No amount of twitting on Chicago facts can repress their spirits, or alter their bloviating tone. Even the Republican discusses the coming opening of the Pacific road:

> The thoroughfare is the great commercial artery of our railroad system. Its importance to Chicago we intend to justify. We have a big thing, and we are going to make the most of it. We intend to do it in the way we know our best can be carried through. We are not rich enough to be careless, but we can undoubtedly afford to be magnanimous. We give them full leave to print and say many severe things about us, and we will not even protest against the strictures deserved.
>
> We have a few words to say with the remark that it waits the forthcoming celebration to be accepted as a celebration of the nations, and added: "Let China and Japan shake hands with the Western Nations at the middle point--the true centre of the world--Chicago."

THE execution of Gerald Eaton despite the strong evidence raising a doubt as to his guilt, has called down upon Governor Geary no little censure. The evidence presented to him for a commutation of the sentence may be briefly stated as follows: 1st. That there was no motive for the murder. 2d. That the post-mortem examination of HOFMAN'S body, made an affidavit subsequent to the trial, setting forth that deceased's death may have been caused by the fall from the cars. 3d. That the wife of one other party than Eaton, Eleven of the jury which convicted him the twelfth being absent from the city at the time of the trial, have made affidavits that they would not have been one of guilty of murder in the first degree if the subsequent evidence had been before them during the trial. Nearly every newspaper in the State has spoken strongly during the trial, and a portion of the press concur in a statement that the degree of guilt found by the jury was not warranted by the evidence.

THE Boston *Post* says: "It was from a lack of inventive that the Connecticut election, in every part, served all it did, to which it added the fact that the wave of last fall which carried General Grant into the Presidential chair has not yet wholly subsided." If this be the truth, the Democrats had better busy themselves in the direction of manufacturing fresh "inventive" and erecting break waters to check the force of that "wave," as there is no telling what tremendous damages it may occasion the first week in April. We have been in great dread about the irresistible force of the "ground swell," but hereafter we shall base our apprehensions wholly upon the "Presidential wave."

A CONFIRMED HIT.--The Boston *Advertiser*, good naturedly ridiculing the recent speeches of Senator Sprague, and referring to the oratorical and parliamentary career at Senator Wilson, is inimitable, from his own standpoint, and plays with accuracy of the state of the country, says:

> It is necessary, we are led to infer, to have an alliance by marriage with the Senate, to be efficient, and to count cotton mills by scores, to be influential in politics, to be at the head of banks, to understand the profitacy and manipulation of railroads, which the American people to-day are capable.

A PHILADELPHIA paper pays "Eminent Criminal Lawyers" a doubtful compliment when in speaking of the prevalence of murder there, it says "the personages most active and powerful in cheating the gallows and the penitentiary are the eminent lawyers." It also says whose familiarity with every imaginable device for bamboozling juries and outwitting magistrates and courts, renders convictions always difficult, and often impossible.

A GOOD many persons appear to think that while Twitchell cheated the gallows by poisoning himself, the gallows cheated Eaton out of the life that it demanded. This is a mistake. Eaton made no such demand. But does it follow that the account is therefore balanced, that no regret should be indulged in and that that the hanging should go on?

THE New York *Times* holds that dealers have unreasonably advanced the price of sugar, that the Cuban struggle has been made the occasion for sugar speculations to an extent not required by the existing state of the market or the supplies. If the result shall be, however, to lighten our people into raising their own sugar its effect will be very salutary.

IT is expected that on the first of May the Treasury will be about a hundred million dollars in specie. There are eighty-two millions now on hand, and the customs for the month are estimated at nearly eighteen millions. Twenty-eight millions of coin interest come due on the 1st proximo. Some few applications have been made for the prepayment of interest, in response to the Secretary's recent offer, but not to any considerable amount. It is expected that this class of payments will be considerably increased on and after the 1st inst.

GENERAL AND PARTICULAR.

The Florida orange crop will not be a failure after all. Those trees which did not lose their leaves have blossomed very heavily, and many persons anticipate that even on those which were numbered lastless will the season later in the season. Peaches and plums have set very abundantly.

A party of men were surveying for a railroad in New Jersey, and of course they were entitled to the best there was along the line. At one house they thought the proprietor was a little tardy in producing the cider. It came at last, and was tasted by one of the party with great deliberation. "How much cider did you make this year?" he asked. "Fifteen barrels," was the answer. Another sip. "Well, if you had had another apple you might have made another barrel."

The Laurenaville, South Carolina, *Herald*, says: "Through the Newberry Immigration Society, several of our farmers have recently added bodied, young and fine looking Germans who have gone to the cotton and corn fields. In every instance we hear very favorable reports."

A veterinary surgeon of Springfield, Illinois, named McKechnie, died on Sunday from the bite of a glandered horse, to which he had been administering medicine some ten days ago. The deceased, on his return home, stated to his wife that he had received his death wound, and although the best medical aid was obtained, nothing could arrest the malignant disease, which assuage its violence, till it carried off its victim.

The Savannah *Republican* records the clearance at that port, April first, of the American ship *Elsinore*, for Cronstadt, with a cargo of 2,004 bales of upland cotton, weighing 923,329 pounds, valued at $252,914. This is the first direct shipment from that port since the war, and is a healthful sign of a returning prosperity which will be nowhere hailed with more pleasure than at the North.

Three remnants of two Indians have been exhumed in digging a cellar in Lynn, Massachusetts. They were in a sitting posture, and probably have been sitting there two or three hundred years.

The Pope is said to entertain the intention of conferring on the Prince Imperial of France the title of Roman Patrice, which was once destined for the Emperor himself, and which was last borne by Charlemagne.

There is a girl in Lynn county, Iowa, only sixteen years old, of whom the following is narrated: For six weeks of the coldest weather of last winter, during the sickness of her father and mother, she attended, carefully and well, forty-eight sheep, seven head of horses, twelve head of cattle and two calves, herded a million three cows, driving the cattle a quarter of a mile every day to water, cleaning the horse-stable, doing the housework, and taking care of her sick father.

John Brown, an eccentric colored barber, of Akron, Ohio, died on the 30th ult., leaving property valued at $25,000. In the year 1849, when colored children were refused admittance into common schools, Mr. Brown erected a schoolhouse in Cleveland at his own expense. For some time he hired teachers and paid them, but the school being free to children of his race.

A deputation of the bakers of Rome lately waited upon His Holiness the Pope to complain of a steam bakery that had recently been established in the Eternal City, and which, they said, sold bread at much lower rates than they were able to afford, and which, consequently, injured their trade considerably. "Holy Father," said the speaker of the deputation, "this bakery is conducted by heretics, who have labored so long and faithfully for the public welfare." "Very true, my son," replied the Pope, with the quaint humor peculiar to him, "very true, but they have a way of getting at the secrets, it must have a "heap" of money.

The "children of light" are sometimes as wise as the "children of this world." For instance, the Clark street Methodist Episcopal Church, Chicago, is a business block on a corner, the two lower stories rent for $2,000, the two upper stories are used for church purposes.

FRANCE is not at all Napoleonic. Rev. Dr. George Fisch says that there are 1,200,000 French Protestants in that country, and that of the 1,100 pastors 700 are evangelical.

The damaging proclivities of a United Presbyterian church at La Claire Prairie, in Illinois, have driven away its pastor for the fifth time. He says to the Presbytery: "Having failed in the oft-repeated effort to remedy the dancing and card-playing in my church, I am driven to the necessity of retiring from the field as to one important feature of my charge of La Claire Prairie congregation."

The Congregational Churches of Illinois have been contributing generously during the year 1868, $426,922 63. Of this, $5,774 95 were given to foreign missions--less than one-seventieth part of the whole amount. The Christian Visiting Committee for the purpose of entering a suit or filing a bill of equity, to bring the case directly before the Supreme Court, to test the question whether those who remain loyal to the Old School Presbyterian Church, or whether those who have seceded and formed a new church, and independent of any church organization, can claim the property. We have heard a good deal about the irresistible force of the "ground swell," but hereafter we shall base our apprehensions wholly upon the "Presbyterial wave."

A CONFIRMED HIT.--The Boston *Advertiser*, good naturedly ridiculing the recent speeches of Senator Sprague, and referring to the oratorical and parliamentary career at Senator Wilson, is inimitable, from his own standpoint, and plays with accuracy of the state of the country, says:

> It is necessary, we are led to infer, to have an alliance by marriage with the Senate, to be efficient, and to count cotton mills by scores, to be influential in politics, to be at the head of banks, to understand the profitacy and manipulation of railroads, which the American people to-day are capable.

A PHILADELPHIA paper pays "Eminent Criminal Lawyers" a doubtful compliment when in speaking of the prevalence of murder there, it says "the personages most active and powerful in cheating the gallows and the penitentiary are the eminent lawyers." It also says whose familiarity with every imaginable device for bamboozling juries and outwitting magistrates and courts, renders convictions always difficult, and often impossible.

A GOOD many persons appear to think that while Twitchell cheated the gallows by poisoning himself, the gallows cheated Eaton out of the life that it demanded. This is a mistake. Eaton made no such demand. But does it follow that the account is therefore balanced, that no regret should be indulged in and that that the hanging should go on?

THE New York *Times* holds that dealers have unreasonably advanced the price of sugar, that the Cuban struggle has been made the occasion for sugar speculations to an extent not required by the existing state of the market or the supplies. If the result shall be, however, to lighten our people into raising their own sugar its effect will be very salutary.

IT is expected that on the first of May the Treasury will be about a hundred million dollars in specie. There are eighty-two millions now on hand, and the customs for the month are estimated at nearly eighteen millions. Twenty-eight millions of coin interest come due on the 1st proximo. Some few applications have been made for the prepayment of interest, in response to the Secretary's recent offer, but not to any considerable amount. It is expected that this class of payments will be considerably increased on and after the 1st inst.

THE RELIGIOUS WORLD.

Items of Local and General Interest.

The Ross Street Methodist Episcopal House of Worship, is now occupied by a German congregation of the same faith.

During the recent session of the Pittsburgh Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, at New Philadelphia, O., the preachers of the East Pittsburgh district presented their presiding elder, Rev. A. J. Endsley, with fifty-five dollars.

The *Liberal Christian* a Unitarian paper, suggests that the "dip of every Evangelical sect is toward the Catholic Church. If so, the forthcoming General Council, at Rome, will be just in time to receive them. The Pope will open his arms for all penitents.

There are 16,634 Sunday Schools under Methodist Episcopal auspices, instructing 1,193,911 scholars, an increase of 82,288 last year. Hence the scholars in the Sabbath Schools of that denomination are nearly as many as adults in Church relationship.

The *Baptist Annual*, of New York, shows that in that State there are 820 churches, 781 ordained or licensed preachers, 4,941 baptisms last year, and 46,725 members.

Bishop Domenec, of this (Catholic) Diocese, has appointed the Very Rev. John Hickey, Vicar General of the Diocese, and Very Rev. J. Twee, Vicar General Foraneus; Rev. P. Kerr, Secretary for the English, and Rev. J. Snell, Bishop's Secretary for the Germans.

The Vestry of Christ Church, Allegheny, have invited the Rev. Dr. Page, the late Rector, to take charge of that church until the return of the Rev. Mr. Brooke, of Memphis, the new Rector, who is expected about the first of May next. Probably the old friends of Dr. Page will be glad to hear his voice again in the pulpit which he so long and acceptably filled.

At a late meeting of twenty-four Baptist ministers in Philadelphia it was found that thirteen--more than one-half--had been "sprinkled" in infancy. This is a significant fact, showing the facility with which the Republicans, like the Episcopalians, draw their adherents from other denominations.

There is a students' society in the Baptist Theological Institution connected with Shurtleff College, Alton, Ill., called the Band of Faith, composed of those who find it very difficult to pay their own expenses, and who formed a socialist organization on the model of the early church which had all things in common, and adopting George Muller's principles for securing their supplies.

Within the last two months three Congregational churches have been founded in the south. Of these, two have been organized in Texas, and one in Tennessee. Rev. J. M. Hoyt and two hundred members each. The third is in Savannah, and has about fifteen members, white and colored, and was organized by Rev. C. W. Sharp, of the American Missionary Association.

A bill has been introduced into the English Parliament to legalize a marriage with a deceased wife's sister. Presbyterian opposition from Scotland is expected. If it passes it will be a great boon to the English people, who are now driven to town extreme. What next shall we have?

Rev. Frede. D. Huntington, D. D., Bishop elect of Central New York, has decided to accept the call to that See. His friends say that the Episcopalians of the city have purchased a fine residence in Utica for the Bishop elect's forehead, and a mild but expressive eye. Of his wife, Whereat he is silent. It is understood that she is a graceful and charming woman, with a face beaming with goodness. Her husband, however, is fully equal to the sentest platforms. The colony consists of twenty families, and their own, in connection with the Bishop elect. Mr. Harris is the author of a new system of theology somewhat resembling Swedenborg's. The Church of which he is a minister is carefully guarded among them.

Mr. A. T. Stewart and the New York Appointments.

We are authorized to state that a report of the Cincinnati *Gazette*, to the effect that, Mr. A. T. Stewart was instrumental in disapproving the appointment of Mr. Grinnell, whom he respects and esteems, as Collector of this port, is entirely untrue, and destitute of any foundation whatever. Equally untrue is the statement that he has recently written letters concerning appointments to office either to President Grant or any one else. His only connection with the matter has been to receive, without solicitation, from the Secretary of the Treasury, the offer of the first office of Secretary of the Treasury, the most important place at present in the gift of the Government, which he declined, and which is known to the public, and it is certain that Mr. Stewart's refusal of that office has given the greatest credit both to his patriotism and his unselfishness.--*N. Y. Sun.*

Hopewell Church.

To the Editor of the Pittsburgh Commercial:

In your paper of Wednesday, under the head of "Court Proceedings," it is stated that the Hopewell church difficulty was settled, by entering a nolle pros. by the Commonwealth, and that the congregation had agreed to submit to the decision of the Presbytery of Ohio, at their meeting at Lisbon about. This notice would convey the idea of a final settlement of the whole difficulty. Such is not the fact. This arrangement was only entered into by each party withdrawing its appeal from the Common Pleas Court for the purpose of entering a suit or filing a bill of equity, to bring the case directly before the Supreme Court, to test the question whether those who remain loyal to the Old School Presbyterian Church, or whether those who have seceded and formed a new church, and independent of any church organization, can claim the property. We have heard a good deal about the irresistible force of the "ground swell," but hereafter we shall base our apprehensions wholly upon the "Presbyterial wave."

A MEMBER.

At a meeting in London, of the British Colonial Association, Beverly Johnson, in reply to a toast to his country, said: "It is possible that some of the colonies which now flourish under the dominion of Her Majesty may find themselves under the stars and stripes, and cheerfully adorn the flag of the United States." Here followed an ominous silence; when Johnson proceeded as follows: "But I trust that day will never arrive. I, for myself, am a friend of Society's demission should ever be curtailed."

Earl Granville, the Colonial Secretary, responded, and said: "I am rather afraid that the Minister of the gentleman's politics, who has spoken with such singular eloquence, will be disappointed, that it is a little want of sense on my part which induces me to accept those sentiments, to open negotiations with him for the cession of British Canada to his Government."

The humors of high churchism are as rich as anything in Hood or Dickens. Soberly these fantastic tricks are played, and hence they are superior to mere jokers who are laughing behind the soberest masks. A church of England minister in Newfoundland, kindly offers to remarry all whom Wesleyan ministers shall have joined together. He says the Wesleyan servants that "unauthorized persons" have sprinkled. He also requires that all dying in his parish shall be buried by him; and this winter kept a child three weeks unburied, waiting for his return home. Fortunately, it was in the winter. He also had the body of an aged parishioner, who had been unceremoniously interred taken out of its grave, where it had lain a month, and brought to his house and left there, and after proper services by himself buried it in ecclesiastical decency and order. "Can foolish fanaticism exceed this?"--*Zion's Herald.*

New York thieves have in training a number of dogs for summer operations. They are taught by repeated endeavors to rush into a room and seize from a counter a parcel and quickly bring it to his master. Their counter tactics are to be in readiness in the hands and the parcel is covered with yellow paper and made to look like the packages of bank notes that are exchanged from one bank to another. The design is to take or send by a confederate one of these dogs to the door of a bank or broker's office, where a parcel or package of bank notes is seen to be lying on the counter, and sending in. The trained animal darts in and seizes the valuables in his mouth and rushes out to the place where he expects to find his foal.

THE DEATH PENALTY.

What It Presupposes and What It Is.

[From the New York Tribune].

Here, then, we take our stand. Until it can be shown (as in the nature of things it never can be) that judges are infallible in judgment and that jurors cannot err in their finding, we insist that the law has no right, according to its own theories, so to dispose of any responsident as to put it out of its own power to redress an injury or to correct a mistake. Hanging presupposes omnipotence and omniscience. In all other human affairs we trust the dictatures of time, and patiently or impatiently wait for the developments of circumstances. In hanging, we assume that no new evidence can be discovered, that every witness has told the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth, that the Court has made no mistake in its law, that the jury has been entirely faithful in the discharge of its duties, that in all things it has acted intelligently and that legal science will never hereafter be able to find a flaw in the indictment. We take leave here. We say that precision and certainty like that are impossible, and, whatever may be our judicial machinery, must always remain impossible. We say further that experience in quite a large number of cases has shown that even confession is not to be relied upon as conclusive evidence of guilt, and that without such evidence the law is continually giving the lie to its own dictum that it is better that ten guilty men should escape than that one innocent man should suffer. Yet we begin in confidence and end in doubt, and only certain thing we do is the death of our victim.

We have but little patience with that legal maxim which assumes that in judicial proceedings there can be no balance. This is a mere assumption, indeed, which the law itself does not countenance. It virtually admits its fallibility by permitting appeal. The lowest court may be reversed, the next higher court may sanction the wrong; but when we arrive at the pinnacle of the judicial structure we find coolly stated there five or six gentlemen who cannot possibly be mistaken. With all due reverence for these august functionaries, we must refuse to accord to them the attributes of the Almighty. And even these Solons will have successors who will overrule their decisions. For all kinds of contracts, and every question which affects material gain, for law points which change the titles of estates, the construction of agreements, or the interpretation of deeds, there is one considerate patience and delay long drawn out; but when it has to deal with such a small a matter as a human life, the law grows peremptory and perfunctory, and will hear of no continuance. There is no chancery with its interminable processes, with its human doubts and sublime preservative maxims, to which the death-doomed felon may flee. We are teachers of titles than of life, and care more for Bill and Assets than for a soul in jeopardy.

In thus claiming for cases of murder privileges and immunities which are accorded to all other cases, we are promoting no novelties of jurisprudence. There are States in Germany in which, for years, no criminals have been executed until after a full and satisfactory and conclusive confession of guilt. We hardly hope for a speech and motion like this in our criminal practice in capital cases; but sooner or later, in this century or the next, the majesty and justice of it will dawn upon the public mind.

PRISON BRUTALITY.

A Glimpse of Prison Life and Discipline.

The New York *Sun* gives a sorry picture of the condition of the palatial State prison, located at the village of Sing Sing, Westchester county, New York. It contains 1,340 prisoners, 198 of whom are women. The men are taken from their cells before daylight in the morning, worked in the shops and quarries until about 6 p. m., time being allowed them for breakfast and dinner. Their breakfast consists of mush and molasses, being eaten after work is over. The food of the prisoners is represented to be of fair quality and sufficient quantity, but the discipline of prison, however, is severe--even brutal in the extreme. At the keeper's will the following tortures can be administered to the prisoners: 1st. The Cat, which is a cage of iron bars, confining the head, and locked around the neck of the prisoner, and worn day and night. 2d. "The Bali and Chain," a heavy ball of iron attached to the ankle by a chain, and dragged about with the prisoner during his daily work. 3d. "The Dark Cell" and bread and water, which almost drives some men crazy in a few days. 4th. "The Yoke," an instrument of torture worthy of the Spanish Inquisition. This consists of a flat iron bar, about six feet long, and weighing about forty pounds. This is placed behind the prisoner's neck, and his hands are manacled to staples at each end. A rope is then attached to the bar and passed around the neck and shoulders of the victim, who is then raised and made to stand on tiptoe. The horrible agony of this torture is said to cause fainting in many cases in a few minutes, and such as no man was ever known to endure more than an hour. It often breaks the chest and causes death. 5th and last is the "Shower Bath," in which the victim is stripped and tied fast, his head only being exposed; and on the top of his head water is poured until the floor of the cell is flooded. This sometimes caused immediate death.

With such powers as the law has conferred upon the keepers of the Sing Sing prison, and with such a code of discipline, punishment and torture of prisoners in Sing Sing prison. And the keepers and guards of the prison are represented to be the main brutal enough to administer this discipline with a will.

STATE NEWS.

The State Medical Association of Pennsylvania will hold the next Convention at Erie on the 6th inst., and for days afterward. The Erie County Medical Society is making provision for the suitable entertainment of the guests.

John McClure, one of the oldest residents and pioneers of Erie county, visited the city of Erie on Tuesday in apparently good health, and about three hours after his arrival was found dead in the street. The jury empanelled by a verdict of death from natural causes.

Wm. H. Kinsley, a member of the junior class in Allegheny College, Meadville, died in that city Tuesday of typhoid fever, after a long illness. He was a son of Rev. Hiram Kinsley, the oldest member of the Erie M. E. Conference, and has a brother in the same profession greatly esteemed by all who knew him.

Joseph Ball, the oldest resident of Connéautville, died last week, aged ninety-one years. He was the first person to vote at elections last fall he voted the Republican ticket.

Judge Gamble, who presided in the Twenty-ninth Judicial District, and whose jurisdiction the Legislature has recently taken away from, by an act annexing his district to the Fourth, held a court in Williamsport on Monday. There was a large attendance of members of the bar present, and after the transaction of ordinary business the following resolution was adopted:

Resolved, That the bar of Lycoming county, regard the Hon. James Gamble in contrast now to hold the Court of the Fourth District, as the choice of the people of the county of Lycoming, in accordance with the Constitution of the State, and to be one of the people constitutionally expressed.

Hard to Kill.

We learn from the Dayton *Journal* that a frightful accident occurred near Connersville, Indiana, the other day. A colored man named Johnson procured a worthless old shot-gun and went out on the river bank to kill some wild ducks. He put in more powder than the crazy old thing would bear, and when, a short time afterwards, the fellow pointed it at a flock of ducks and pulled the trigger, the barrel was exploded into fragments. One piece of iron, about six inches in length, was crashed through his skull to the depth of about three inches. How he managed to get home after this is a mystery, but he made his way to the nearest house, where he was taken in and surgical aid sent for. The piece of iron was extracted, but the end of the barrel was so firmly fastened in his skull that it would be difficult to remove it, and the proposed to administer chloroform to the wounded man; but he wouldn't hear to anything of the kind. He said he had a purpose in living, and that nothing could kill him. He was right. The piece was drawn out, a portion of the poor fellow's brains came with it. It is thought he will recover.

"Nine Ends to a Robbery.

James Fairfax, Treasurer of the county of Coshocton county, in 1868, was convicted last week. Brown, a banker, conspired with Ketchum, the Treasurer, to take the county money, about $22,000, and to divide it up a guarantee of a certain amount to Ketchum in the office bound and gagged. He was a Democrat, and there was then a Democratic Legislature in Ohio--a visitation which comes to that State which the Lord loves to chasten. His peculiarities are: 1. To ask no one but God for supplies. 2. Never to contract any debts for supplies. 3. To be contented with what God sends.

The Methodist Episcopals of New England have taking measures for a theological college and a publication house in Boston. They also propose to erect a great public hall in that city for free religious worship, with ample space in the basement for the religious training of the students of their theological seminary, and perhaps of the future university, until such time as suitable buildings for permanent use can be erected.

We gather from our exchanges, says the *Journal and Messenger*, the statistics of the year in the country, and find reports of nearly 8,000 accessions and conversions during last week, of these, 3,173 among the Methodists, 1,500 among the Baptists, 800 among the Congregationalists, 225 among the United Brethren, and 200 among the Friends.

The *Universalist* says to its friends this: "Always go to a Unitarian in preference to an Orthodox church, if it be one where the Gospel is received as the Word of God. If it be one of the Free Church, Church of the Future, Church of Humanity, or to an Orthodox church in practice, every time. We are a Christian church. We love and delight in that which is sufficient evidence ever her, and inspires her with confidence enough to make it the basis of her distinctive position of food. She has now manifested a desire to see Mgr. Deschamps, Archbishop of Malines and Primate of Belgium, in Rome, whither he is about to come and pay a visit to his former pupil."

Grant and Napoleon.

A correspondent went to see President Grant, and in his account says: "I sat down and inspected the walls. Over the door, above, and now, with us, holds our thoughts. In the same way I had, when a downy youth, stared at Polk, and then at Pierce, one of the most graceless and accomplished characters, and then at Lincoln, each one in his turn the centre of a nation's solicitude--and each one had gone his way--down the steps of the Republican palace to be almost forgotten. I must say that the man I saw in the chair, with his head bowed in deep meditation, was more of a character, more of a mystery, than any one of them. He reminded me *more and more of Louis Napoleon*--of course I do not mean in his outward appearance, for there would be no resemblance, but in the air, and, above all, in *the dead cold look of his face, that impressed me with the belief that there is back of it a force we can not get at or comprehend.*"

At the recent burning of steamers at Saint Louis, a young lady from Kansas, who was the only lady passenger upon the Jennie Lewis, who had no male escort, is represented as having, on ten things very philosophically. The St. Louis *News* says that she described her philosophy and her subsequent good fortune: "She seemed to be in a good humor, and endeavored to impart a corresponding feeling among the unfortunate ones near her. She could be seen gesticulating and apparently consoling, which would be all the more praying for, Mr. Sharp!

The New York *Times*, of February 8th, contains the report of a sermon by Rev. J. S. Inskip, of the Methodist Episcopal Church, in Bleecker street, in which he says: "The Invocation of the saints in the Church itself was simply moral doctrine, but it is abused by the Catholics to carry it to its extreme. What next shall we have?"

Rev. Frede. D. Huntington, D. D., Bishop elect of Central New York, has decided to accept the call to that See. His friends say that the Episcopalians of the city have purchased a fine residence in Utica for the Bishop elect's forehead, and a mild but expressive eye. Of his wife, Whereat he is silent. It is understood that she is a graceful and charming woman, with a face beaming with goodness. Her husband, however, is fully equal to the sentest platforms. The colony consists of twenty families, and their own, in connection with the Bishop elect. Mr. Harris is the author of a new system of theology somewhat resembling Swedenborg's. The Church of which he is a minister is carefully guarded among them.

C. J. Vance, who has been preaching for the Baptist Church, in Rostraver township, Westmoreland county, Pennsylvania, has been excluded from their fellowship on the following charges: First, for marrying a man and woman, who, it is alleged, had been divorced; second, for collecting money for paying off a church debt, and appropriating it to his own use; third, for collecting money for paying the minister's salary, and appropriating it to himself. This is the same man, we believe, who was excluded from the Methodist Church at Wellsburg, Virginia, on similar charges about two years ago.

On the Stone Ridge Circuit, New York Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, a female local preacher. Her name is Mrs. Mary Bloomfield-Moore. She was recommended for licensure by her class, unanimously, and by the Quarterly Conference. At the quarterly Conference, Her Presiding Elder Rev. A. H. Ferguson, signed the license.

The receipts of foreign money for his Orphan House, in London, during the past year were $130,000, making nearly $2,000,000 which he has received, in all, for his orphan houses. His income for the present year may be much larger. His peculiarities are: 1. To ask no one but God for supplies. 2. Never to contract any debts for supplies. 3. To be contented with what God sends.

The Methodist Episcopals of New England have taking measures for a theological college and a publication house in Boston. They also propose to erect a great public hall in that city for free religious worship, with ample space in the basement for the religious training of the students of their theological seminary, and perhaps of the future university, until such time as suitable buildings for permanent use can be erected.

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FINANCE AND TRADE.

FRIDAY EVENING, April 9, 1869.

The national banks of the eastern cities, as elsewhere, complain loudly of the onerous restrictions to which they are constantly subjected under the various regulations of the National Bank acts, and many of them are contemplating seriously returning to the old system. The Comptroller of the Currency under the new law relative to statements, is at liberty to call for at least five returns during the year, at any time at his discretion. It is over three months since the date of the last statement, and there has been no demand for that kind made upon them. The result is the banks, in anticipation of this statement, are holding themselves under a state of contraction, when they ought to be expanding. The delay in keeping the money market in a stringent condition—deranging the productive powers of the country, inflicting losses on individuals, and checking enterprises generally.

We have another active and strong Government bond market reported from New York. The circular of Jay Cooke & Co., under date of last evening, received by Messrs. McVay & Co., explains the cause of the advance:

"The restriction of the present rates of interest and the ease with which loans are negotiated to-day, show that currency is gradually coming this way, and as we predicted yesterday we may look for a continued ease after this week. The general rate up to three o'clock has been 6-10, after that unemployed balances offered at 6 per cent. currency.

"Governments have been very strong all day, and the market very active, the principal demand being for old bonds, to cover short sales on options which matured within a few days. The rest of the list was strong, and all stock offered quickly taken up. We notice quite an inquiry for registered bonds of May and November, which now rule the lowest. These orders are for investment.

"Gold advanced to 123⅜, on the strength of a rumor that the Bank of England had raised its rate of interest to 6, but we have nothing confirming this, but to the contrary the advance of Consols is a contradiction sufficient."

Messrs. Ira B. McVay & Co. report the following quotations of government bonds in New York to-day, as furnished them by Jay Cooke & Co., their correspondents:

	Morn.	Noon.	Closing.
1881's, reg.	115½	116	116
1862, 5-20's	113½	113	113½
1864 5-20's	110½	110½	110½
1865 5-20's old	110½	110½	110½
1865 5-20's new	110½	110½	110½
1867 5-20's	110½	110½	110½
1868 5-20's	110½	110½	110½
10-40's	109½	109½	109½
U. S. 6's, currency	120	120½	120½
U. S. 7-30's	106½	106½	106½

James T. Brady & Co., corner of Fourth avenue and Wood street, quote the United States Securities in New York to-day as follows:

April 8.	April 9.	Adv.	Dec.
Gold	132	132½	½
U. S. 6's, 1881	115½	115½	½
U. S. 5-20s, 1862	113½	113½	½
U. S. 5-20s, 1864	110½	110½	½
U. S. 5-20s, 1865	110½	110½	½
U. S. 10-40s	109½	109½	½
U. S. 5-20s, new issue, 1865, 1867	110½	110½	½
U. S. 5-20s, new issue, 1867	110½	110½	½
U. S. 5-20s, new issue, 1868	110½	110½	½

—The following table, made up from dispatches received at J. W. Kennedy's Stock Rooms, Apollo Building, No. 84 Fourth avenue, shows the prices of Railway stocks, Gold, etc. at the various sessions of the New York Boards during the day:

April 9, 1869.	10 A M	11 A M	12 M	1 P M	2 P M	3 P M	4 P M	Closing.
N. Y. Central	104½	104½	104½	104½	104½	104½	104½	104½
Reading	93½	93½	93½	93½	93½	93½	93½	93½
Mich. Southern	87½	87½	87½	87½	87½	87½	87½	87½
Illinois Central	138½	138½	138½	138½	138½	138½	138½	138½
Cleveland	120½	120½	120½	120½	120½	120½	120½	120½
Pitt. Ft. Wayne	97½	97½	97½	97½	97½	97½	97½	97½
Chicago & N. W.	90½	90½	90½	90½	90½	90½	90½	90½
Do preferred	90½	90½	90½	90½	90½	90½	90½	90½
Rock Island	103½	103½	103½	103½	103½	103½	103½	103½
Pittsburgh	77½	77½	77½	77½	77½	77½	77½	77½
Chicago & N. W.	90½	90½	90½	90½	90½	90½	90½	90½
Do preferred	90½	90½	90½	90½	90½	90½	90½	90½
Ohio & Miss.	33½	33½	33½	33½	33½	33½	33½	33½
Pacific Mail	107½	107½	107½	107½	107½	107½	107½	107½
W. U. Telegraph	35½	35½	35½	35½	35½	35½	35½	35½
Adams Ex.	49½	49½	49½	49½	49½	49½	49½	49½
Toledo R. R.	97½	97½	97½	97½	97½	97½	97½	97½
Amer. U. S. Ex	49½	49½	49½	49½	49½	49½	49½	49½
Wells, Fargo & Co.	32½	32½	32½	32½	32½	32½	32½	32½
Gold	132½	132½	132½	132½	132½	132½	132½	132½

A comparison between yesterday's and to day's closing quotations shows the following changes:

	Thurs.	Fri.	Adv.	Dec.
N. Y. Central	103½	104½	½	
Hudson River	142½	140½		2
Reading	93½	93½	½	
Mich. Central	138½	138½	½	
Mich. Southern	86½	87½	½	
Illinois Central	138½	138½	½	
Cleve. and Pitts.	90½	90½		
Chicago and North.	83½	83½	½	
Do preferred	90½	90½	½	
Rock and Toledo	97½	97½	½	
Rock Island	103½	103½	½	
Pittsburgh	77½	77½	½	
Do preferred	90½	90½	½	
Fort Wayne and Chic.	97½	97½	½	
Pacific Mail	107½	107½	½	
Western Union	35½	35½	½	
Adams Express	49½	49½	½	
American Express	49½	49½	½	
North. U. Ex.	49½	49½	½	
American U. S. Ex.	49½	49½	½	
Wells, Fargo & Co.	32½	32½	½	

—James W. Kennedy, Broker, No. 84 Fourth avenue, (Apollo Building), dealer in United States Bonds, State and Municipal Securities, Railroad, Bank, Insurance and Miscellaneous Stocks. Having represented in the New York Stock Boards every day while in session, he guarantees and sells on commission any stocks on the regular lists on the same terms as the New York brokers. Governments, Gold and Railway Stocks purchased for customers on the usual margin.

PRODUCE AND GENERAL MARKETS.

OFFICE OF THE PITTSBURGH COMMERCIAL, }
FRIDAY EVENING, April 9, 1869. }

Trade to-day was more active in our general markets. Groceries are more called for and the dry goods business has been fairly active all week. Grain continues dull. Flour continues in good demand. Butter is still scarce and in demand. Eggs are still declining.

We quote as follows, which are the wholesale store prices unless otherwise noted:

APPLES—We quote good to choice at $4 25@5 per bbl., with an occasional sale of very extra at higher and mixed common at $3 50@4.

APPLE BUTTER—Sales at 8@9 c per gallon in kegs and crocks.

BEANS—Market dull. Choice small white nominally $2 20@2 30 as to quality, some very fancy hand-picked sell occasionally in a retail way at $2 75.

BUTTER—Good table butter is still scarce and in demand. Choice dairies common to fair grades at 35@38 c.

BEESWAX—Under limited receipts we have declined to 28 c dozen and dull at that.

BROOM CORN—The market is less active and inclined to be lower, though we quote a little week. We quote shoulders at 16@17c; sides 18@19c; clear and sugar cured hams 19@20c; breakfast bacon 19@20c; sugar cured shoulders 13@14c; lard in tierces 16½@17c; in kegs and cans 18@19 c. Mess pork $22 25@23 per bbl.

LARD OIL—Market steady. We quote extra No. 1, winter trained, at $1 20@1 25, and No. 2 at $1 10@1 15.

HONEY—We quote at $7 50@8 00 p bbl.

HOPS—Demand good with but a poor supply. We quote at 25@30 p lb.

LIME—We quote Connellsville at $2 25 p bbl, and white lime at $2 75 p bbl.

MAPLE MOLASSES—Sales by the gallon jug at $1 75 each.

CHARCOAL—Market dull and unchanged. We quote coopers at 3½@4c for No. 2, and in barrels at 4@4½c for common to good.

CORDAGE—Supply on the market light. Goods is quoted at 22@23c per lb.

ONIONS—A very choice article commands $5 25@5 50 p bbl. We quote common to choice at $4 @4 25 p bbl.

HAY—We quote home ground on the wharf at $30, and that grown west at $28@29 p ton.

POTATOES—Market next to overstocked, and very dull. We quote at 75@80c for Peachblows from store, and for river potatoes they are limited. Buckeyes from store $1 @1 25 p bbl. for the best.

SEEDS—Clover seed unchanged at $7 50@8 p bushel, and timothy seed $3 50 p bushel. Flax seed is quoted at $2 25@2 30 p bushel.

MILL FEED—The Pearl Mill prices are, p hundred, for bran, $1 10; middlings, $1 20; for middlings, $1 30; for screenings, $1 40, and for chops, $1 50.

FLOUR—Demand fair, although not so active as it has been for some time past. Prices are unchanged and we quote as follows: Superfine spring, barrels, $7 50@7 75; choice spring, $8 @8 25; choice winter wheat in barrels, $8 @8 50; and in sacks $7 @7 50 for St. Louis family. The following are the mill prices: Pearl Mill family in barrels, $8 50, and in sacks $8 @8 25; Pearl Mill family wheat brands in barrels $8, and in sacks $7 50@7 75; Pearl Mill choice white winter wheat brands in barrels $8 50, and in sacks $8 @8 25; Pearl Mill choice white winter wheat, family, in barrels $9, and in sacks $8 @8 50; Pearl Mill choice spring wheat flour, in bbls. $8 50, and in sacks $8 @8 75.

GRAIN—Sales of kiln dried at 80@85c bush and common at 60c.

OATS—Market dull and quiet, with no material change to note in prices. No. 2 winter wheat is nominally $1 @1 05 in store. Spring wheat is in limited demand at 95c@$1 from store. Corn is quiet at 80@85c from store. Rye is firmer at 95@$1 per bush. Barley is dull at $1 @1 10. Buckwheat is quoted at $1 @1 05 per bush. Timothy seed is in fair demand at $3 @3 50 per bushel. Flax seed is quoted at $2 @2 25 per bushel.

PROVISIONS—There continues a fair trade in provisions for summer figures. Hogsheads of Sugar cured hams and shoulders continue in good demand and sell readily at 19@20c for hams and 13@14c for shoulders. Mess pork is in fair demand at $23 @23 50 per bbl. Mess beef is quoted at $20 @21 per bbl. Prime beef is quoted at $16 @17 per bbl. Dried beef is in demand at 20@22c per lb. Lard is in fair demand at 18@19c for kegs and cans. Bacon sides are in demand at 18@19c. Bacon shoulders are in demand at 13@14c. Pickled pigs feet are in demand at $6 @6 50 per bbl. Pickled tripe is in demand at $5 @5 50 per bbl. Pickled hocks are in demand at $18 @20 per bbl. Pickled lips are in demand at $18 @20 per bbl. Pickled snouts are in demand at $18 @20 per bbl. Pickled feet are in demand at $2 @2 50 per bbl. Pickled pigs are in demand at $3 @3 50 per bbl. Pickled beef tongues are in demand at $30 @35 per bbl. Pickled beef hearts are in demand at $12 @14 per bbl. Pickled beef tails are in demand at $12 @14 per bbl. Pickled beef lips are in demand at $12 @14 per bbl. Pickled beef rumps are in demand at $18 @20 per bbl. Pickled beef shanks are in demand at $12 @14 per bbl. Pickled beef livers are in demand at $12 @14 per bbl. Pickled beef kidneys are in demand at $12 @14 per bbl. Pickled beef hearts are in demand at $12 @14 per bbl. Pickled beef tongues are in demand at $30 @35

The Daily Commercial.

BLOODY WORK AT THE STATE CAPITAL.

A Newspaper Correspondent Stabs an Ex-Member of the Legislature.

A bloody encounter occurred Wednesday afternoon on the Soldiers' Monument Avenue running through the Capitol grounds, Harrisburg, between J. Rutledge Dunglison, a Philadelphia newspaper correspondent, and A. R. Schofield, an ex-member of the Legislature from Philadelphia. The *State Guard* says: "From what we could learn, and we have taken pains to learn the particulars, it appears that Dunglison and Schofield had had a dispute in the Senate Chamber in which hard words had passed between them. Dunglison had left the Senate Chamber in the direction of the Monument Avenue, and Schofield followed him. Dunglison, on the Monument Avenue, turned upon his pursuer and struck Schofield in the face, and while the latter was returning the assault he felt himself stabbed by some ordinary pocket knife in the back of the neck. The wound inflicted, while not dangerous, is a very painful one. Blood was examined by many persons yesterday and pronounced to be human blood as it was found on the check-home would have several hundredths popular affair created without a doubt, but for the affair created by the excitement in the neighborhood where it occurred. Schofield immediately left the grounds, and Dunglison, accompanied by a friend, went to the Mayor's office to surrender himself. Up to a late hour last night no information had been made to the Mayor asking for any arrests for this murder. The assault was a cowardly one."

THE OIL REGIONS.

Rare New Wells--Destructive Fire at Petroleum Center.

The Titusville *Herald* of yesterday has the following petroleum items: Three new wells are in process of drilling on West Hickory Creek, near the Beatty farm. They will be completed within the next three or four weeks.

The Home Petroleum Company struck a new oil-bearing sand on the Blood farm, adjoining Beatty. The new well is by far the largest. The new well on the Heinsden Run, near Pithole, struck about one month ago, is producing a mixture of green and black oil. The product is about thirty barrels per day. The well is 1,400 feet deep, and the oil bearing sand rock is about thirty feet thick. The well is owned by the principal owners of the H. P. Boughton, of this city. A well struck in December last in the immediate vicinity of the above, at a depth of 1,400 feet deep, has since yielded about two hundreds of amber-colored oil per day. The well is owned by Mr. Boughton, of this city, and Mr. Ohanan farm at Rouseville. It is owned by G. Strong and others, and is producing about ten barrels per day.

A most destructive fire broke out at Petroleum Center on Wednesday evening last. The flames were first discovered at half-past seven o'clock, issuing from the roof of a small building adjoining the Lake Shore House. In a few minutes the Lake Shore House was on fire, and so fire altogether and spread on all sides, and in a short time all of the buildings on the south side of the street, and the furniture was saved, and what was saved was damaged very much. The Lake Shore House was owned by Mr. Oakland Hotel, which was soon reduced to ashes, on was the destruction of property. The fire only lasted one hour, but at least $25,000 worth of property was consumed. Twenty-five or thirty houses must have been burned. As it was, it is wonderful that more were not consumed, as the wind was very strong and the oil-soaked buildings burned very readily.

CITY MATTERS.

The New Paving Bill.

The scheme for grading and paving the main thoroughfares leading from the old city into several districts, as agreed upon by the members representing the new wards, and published in our paper yesterday, does not meet the approval of all the members of the body, and it is impossible to foretell what the judgment of the majority may be. It is generally admitted that, under the provisions of the law requiring the consent of a majority of the property owners before the work can be graded and paved, not one of the main avenues can be permanently improved for many years to come; and it is also admitted that the passage of the bill is necessary, but would confer lasting benefits upon the entire city. The new bill is intended to repeal this provision, whereby the paving of those thoroughfares may be accomplished in a few years, and provides for their grading and paving without the consent of the property owners thereon, on the basis of one-fifth of the cost of paving upon the abutting property, but only one-third thereof, and the remaining two-thirds is to be assessed by a jury of five miles upon the old city and ten miles upon the property in the districts. The bill is drawn with a view to the amount of one million dollars, in order to begin the work at once, and if more than that amount be needed, the paving is to be done in sections of equal length on all the streets.

The friends of the measure contend that the proper law should be changed, and that the property holders should be made to bear the whole expense of paving in front of their lots, but as the citizens of the new wards have been accustomed to do. At first blush this appears equitable, but there are many objections to the change that would be made in the case of the main avenues. In the old wards, where the land is sub-divided in small lots, the property is owned by persons of small means, and the assessment for paving one or three hundred feet, the most equitable basis that could be adopted, would bear heavily upon its own frontage, because each and every lot has a front upon some street or alley. In the new wards the lots are generally of a considerable depth. One man may have a frontage of one hundred feet on a country road, and his neighbor may have double the quantity of land within twenty squares of the city, and the latter would benefit by the improvement. In addition to this, the whole city is more or less interested in the improvement of the leading thoroughfares in good condition for travel all seasons, and it is proper to look at the matter in this view of the question, and provides that so far as the main roads are concerned, the owners of the property shall pay but one-fifth of the cost, and that the remainder shall be assessed upon the whole property of the city, at the rate of ten mills in the new and five mills in the old wards. It also provides that the property holder may pay in his own way, either having paid for paving all the streets in the new districts. Without stopping to consider the question whether the proposed improvements would not confer a benefit upon the old city greatly beyond the amount of the tax, the principal objection to the bill is the suggestion that the people of the new wards are taxed for several things in which they have no direct benefit, and have to pay their proportion of the water commission tax, the city hall tax, the fire department tax, and other taxes from which they will derive but little if any benefit for many years. Upon the principle, however, that those are going to be benefited in the future should bear a portion of the burden of improvements beneficial to the entire city, the bill is probably as nearly perfect as could be framed, and will be passed.

The Pittsburg Gazette says: "If our judge of its merits. It is not claimed that it is perfect, and will operate equitably upon all, but it is believed that it will be found, if the people wait until a measure is devised which will give satisfaction in every case, they will never see the light of day. The people in this city are for the calm consideration of practical measures like the one under consideration, and the community in which they live, and they will dispose of it accordingly."

The Office of Chief of Police--Resignation of Chief Bailey.

Chief of Police *Joseph L. Bailey, Esq.*, who has filled the position thus far during Mayor Brush's administration, resigned his position last evening. The pressure of other duties incumbent upon the duties of Chief of Police, on the principal cause which prompted Mr. Butler to resign. The following correspondence between himself and the Mayor explains itself:

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF POLICE, PITTSBURGH, April 9, 1869.

To His Honor, J. M. Brush, Mayor of Pittsburgh.

DEAR SIR:--As you made some remarks in Aldermen of the Seventh ward and Chief of Police, I, Mr. Bailey, to the effect that he was unable to be incompatible, and for the benefit of myself and the public to forestall what the judgment of the majority may be. It is generally admitted that, under the provisions of the law requiring the consent of a majority of the property owners before the work can be graded and paved, not one of the main avenues can be permanently improved for many years to come; and it is also admitted that the passage of the bill is necessary, but would confer lasting benefits upon the entire city. The new bill is intended to repeal this provision, whereby the paving of those thoroughfares may be accomplished in a few years, and provides for their grading and paving without the consent of the property owners thereon, on the basis of one-fifth of the cost of paving upon the abutting property, but only one-third thereof, and the remaining two-thirds is to be assessed by a jury of five miles upon the old city and ten miles upon the property in the districts. The bill is drawn with a view to the amount of one million dollars, in order to begin the work at once, and if more than that amount be needed, the paving is to be done in sections of equal length on all the streets.

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THE MILLER-HUGHES GARROTING CASE.

Full Investigation Before the Mayor--Hughes Held in $3,000 Bail for Court.

On last Sunday morning, Mr. Thomas D. Miller, who resides on Mr. Thaw's building, on Grant street, appeared before Mayor Brush and deposed to the following information against Thomas Hughes: "That Thomas Hughes did on last Sunday and feloniously commit an assault and battery upon the person of Thomas D. Miller, by means of choking and 'garroting' complainant, thereby causing bodily injuries dangerous to the life of said deponent, and attempting him on the head with some blunt instrument unknown, cutting him severely, and attempting to rob said deponent."

The offense was alleged to have been committed on Saturday night about eleven o'clock just as Miller was retiring. He had occasion to go out into the hall, which is very dark, and on coming into the house he was seized and knocked down, but his cries of murder, &c., frightened the assailants--two in number--and they fled without robbing him, which they would well have done had not his cries of murder prevented them. The prisoner is 5 feet 10 inches high, and weighs about 180 pounds. He was dressed in a dark suit of clothes and wore a soft hat. He is a stranger in the city, and has been employed as a laborer on the Pittsburgh, Fort Wayne and Chicago Railroad. He has been in the habit of boarding at the house of Mr. Thaw, on Grant street, for about two months. He is a married man, and his wife resides in Allegheny City. He was arrested by Officer Fitzsimmons, and was brought before the Mayor, when the case was called for hearing.

Mollie Brooks, sworn--Knew Thos. Hughes; saw him on Saturday night and Sunday morning; Hughes came to my house and stayed all night; was there on Sunday morning; Hughes had on light clothes; he was at my house earlier in the evening; he had on the same hat there, he had on a dark hat; he left my house after I went out and when the officers came for him I went out and got him a coat.

Cross-examined--He was very drunk and went to bed with my sister.

Re-direct--He has no clothes at my house; do not know what name of this lady is; Hughes had on light clothes and the second time he had on dark clothes and the second time they went in the direction of Fifth avenue, the other time they went in the direction of Grant street; he came out after them; the first man had his right hand to his face and his face towards the pavement; could not identify either man; could see his face; could not identify either men.

Cross-examined--Waived.

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Cross-examined--Waived.

Officer Samuel Lang sworn--Knew the defendant; arrested him on Sunday morning, assisted by officers Forester and Fitzsimmons; Officer Forester read the warrant for his arrest; Officer Mc Cready read the warrant for his arrest; Officer Mc Cready read the warrant for his arrest; Officer Mc Cready

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THE GREAT AMERICAN BASIN.

A GLANCE AT THE FAR WEST.

ITS VAST RESOURCES.

A Wonderful Country to be Developed.

THE PACIFIC RAILROAD.

John Chinaman and the Mormons.

Lecture by Rev. A. N. Stewart, Delivered at the Third Presbyterian Church, Rev. T. A. Noble's, Thursday Evening, April 1st, 1869.

In ancient times when travelers making long journeys by sea and land returned and related their adventures and their sight-seeing, an advantage was possessed of which modern tourists daze not venture to avail themselves. Their listeners were superstitious, ignorant and credulous; the marvellous, absurd, ludicrous, or mirnculous was listened to with eager and unhesitating belief. Stories were treasured in history about hydras, chimeridæ, natads, dwarfs, and dwarfs, about golden fleeces, nectarial streams, and Elysian fields, of being half man and half horse; of women half fish—marvels on the land and marvels from the deep—tales on earth and in the air, in every nook, and cave and corner. Such were the happy arts of these books of poetry and of song; the real and the unreal, the truthful and the fabulous, were blended in such facile fashion that the inventions listeners and readers-Ventriloquists may learn of them, and how to ward and relate his marvels without fear of contradiction. Those times of really credulence are gone, the poetic period has passed. The annals of prose, with its sober matters of fact, have filled the world. The wanderer has girdled continent; steamships sail around the world; telegraphs talk in an instant through and beneath oceans, from continent to continent of the world; men have been after it before us. We know what all the rest of the world is doing; the school-master has been producing wondrous results; an unsatisfied spirit of inquiry is being infused among the masses. Tract-depots, newspapers, lectures, specials, adventurers, science-hunters, specimen gatherer, book-makers, and lecturers, have ransacked each island, and continent, and inhabitable every corner of the earth—flocked into the character and has filled the world with its fame.

The tourist-lecturer is making himself every where heard. So the traveler home-ward bound may not, what is there for me to relate? and the answer is, there is no new land to be found on the sun. A writer has made it a virtue in one of his characters to make old clothes look as well as if they were new. I would not like to be regarded as commendable to make an old story look as well as a new one. Therefore the source of satisfaction to myself and my audience if you are in some degree interested in the subject of the lecture.

Every man should be proud of the land in which he was born and reared. Its climate and its productions, its prosperity, how one portion is adapted to supply all the others. This is given in the Bible which is the best book in the world, rather with reference to the written constitution of the United States. Hence, said the early Christians we believe that Jesus Christ by a special providence governs our world, and that all changes and contingencies of time, the end from the beginning, have been foreseen and provided under His control for one grand purpose—the extension and building up of His spiritual kingdom among men. Hence, when the wisdom reserved for the development of our earth which is to be the theatre of the vision of beauty grows old. Occasionally you see a beautiful sheet of water. It is water, but it is not the water of the ocean. It is not formed by the breeze can be seen. The deep-blue sea is not visible; your feet are not on it, nor is planking in the water, and you wonder how it is passing on before you. Now it is the sea, or whose the waters were seen, in the last, parthen into a few cage bushes. The vision still remains the illusion is dispelled. Such are the fair promises of the future, but not to be sought for in the common theatre of human life, which is filled with the beautiful, the ordinary, and the sublime, but in a place of more exalted and refined character, and on a grand scale on the face of the globe, the head the world—the good and the bad—the gold and the dross, the wheat—gold and silver. No matter how much the latter may abound in a majority remain poor, as has been the case in all ages.

THE FARMING AND GARDENING INTEREST

of the Territory and the Eastern States farmers would say at first. "Pshaw! this country is rich in minerals and to mining it must be devoted; he who would attempt to make it productive by agriculture is a fool." But experience is an excellent disposer of theories. In advance of the miners about twenty-five years ago, several thousand Mormons separated themselves from the rest of mankind, and have erected over this boundless region; millions of acres constantly reproduced by the sun, and by the rain which falls upon the sage bush is appreciated. Native branch are found here. I have no doubt that, in the first year of the seed of this fair, and all the old made of the Territory, the seed, will be far more abundant. I found that in a single root a bush that had eighty-four stalks. And the roots are left in the ground to flourish again in the spring.

THE NATIVES.

When the first adventurer first looked into the region there were tribes of Indians, the most helpless and harmless in our country. They were truly and emphatically nature's Americans. No one could be found in the whole western region, and the native tribes were therefore living in a state peace, except the Indian pastime of killing each other. How they contrived to exist in such a country is one of the mysteries of nature. It is not a problem of great density. They had no wigwams or houses of any kind, they could not be persuaded to live in houses. Their only shelter was a pile of sage bushes. A buffalo, an elk, a bear and a mountain sheep were seldom seen, consolitating meagre support for the hunter and altogether insufficient to sustain tribes with flesh. Their principal food was vegetable, and the largest part of the native capacity of the region, that sensed the tribes subsisted upon vegetables, and that without toil. Various roots grow in large quantities and the first white discoverer saw some of the Indians digging roots with sticks, and called them "digger Indians" and said they lived entirely on roots. This was a mistake, though a frequent one in the first region. The issue of these observations was the sending white men to the region to collect specimens of the wild roots. Some of these are filled with nuts. These nuts are gathered easily, and constitute a nutritious food, and best of all, many others buy them of the Indians and crack and eat them as we do chestnuts. A white speaker has exhibited to the audience. The Indians gather them in one of the valleys. The nuts are ground in piles as large as a wagon bed and burnt. They are then ground and eaten easily. When all other food is gone they subsist seemingly healthy upon the nuts for months. They come to the valley in the month of July, and feed them on an article of food. The sage bush is also used by the native women for mats, and made into soup which is quite palatable. I obtained some specimens of a kind from which they make soup. Thus this region supports quite a large native population. There grows a beautiful native grass which the natives use for tea. So do cabbage; some of the miners interested us that they were about to starve those Indians out of existence, for they will eat anything. They are so filthy that they would not drive away. They gather around settlements like hungry dogs. Their clothing is filthy beyond obtained. The head off garments in which they sometimes present a most ludicrous appearance in their efforts after fashion. Every one possesses as writers on taste tell us a love for fashion, but these Indians seem to have no taste in adapting one part of the garment to the other, and thus present sometimes a most fantastic and ludicrous appearance. The Indians will sometimes wash clothes, but always on side the house; they are so filthy, being so addicted to lousiness, that he altogether beneath a hostile latitude, and I do hope our Indian Bureau, and Indian agents will all be directed to treat them as men. They are for if treated like Chinamen with kindness the Indians will be easily civilized. In twenty or twenty miles wide, and the mountains rise to five thousand feet high. Our geographies do not give the height of the mountains, but the breadth, but we will have one after a while that will. And then, as in the case of the Rocky Mountains of the traveller, its first appearance is grand and wonderful, in its own sublime, but to the traveller who has crossed the "Great Basin of the West, the impression will be one of disappointment, and of tameness.

Looking southward the mountains valleys in Nevada, are found by no means in a line, but in a confused manner, and sometimes wide, and so intensely clear is the atmosphere that those seem to lake in their entire range and see them perfectly far, far off. It seems like a land of pleasure, joy, and peace,

The Daily Commercial.

SUPPLEMENT.

IMPORTANT DISCOVERY.

The Earth Closet and the Treatment of Wounds.

To The Editors of the Evening Post:

As you were foremost in calling the attention of the American public to the Earth Closet System—the use of sifted dry earth for the deodorization and disinfection of human feces—and thus become the pioneers of a reform that promises not only unspeakable relief from the greatest annoyance of our lives, but the prevention of the greatest waste of the fertility of the earth, it is just that to you should be communicated an outgrowth of that system that offers if possible a still greater benefit to suffering humanity.

One of the experimental commodes sent out by the Earth Closet Company was placed at the disposal of Dr. Addison Hewson, of the Pennsylvania Hospital (in Philadelphia). Its introduction into the surgical ward, where it has been for two weeks in constant use by about twenty patients, and has been an entirely satisfactory that it is proposed to substitute earth closets for water closets wherever these exist in that institution.

At the time of its introduction there was lying in the ward a patient suffering from a very severe compound fracture of the lower leg. The wound was in an unhealthy condition, and its exudations, amounting to a pint in twenty-four hours, were so offensive as to cause a sickening odor throughout the ward and in the corridors. The excellent ventilation of the ward and the use of the usual disinfectants were powerless to overcome this nuisance. It occurred to Dr. Hewson to test the power of dry earth to absorb this odor as far as it might be absorbed. The effect was magical. Not only was the offensiveness entirely overcome, but the effect on the character of the wound itself of such an application was remarkable. It was within a few days after the commencement of the use of the earth that the daily dressing of a single half pint of earth was not even saturated. The discharge from the wound lost, further, its inflammatory character; the intense pain of the sore was entirely relieved, and a healthy granulation then began rapidly.

Such an indication of a newly-found healing agent was not disregarded.

On Monday last, being in Philadelphia, I was invited to attend the morning dressing of the aforesaid wound, and saw for myself what I saw.

Fevers.—Two patients suffering from serious variolous ulcers, after prolonged suffering, and with little relief from the usual treatment, had taken consecutively the dry earth treatment. They find their sore-growing daily smaller, all pain and inflammation gone, and a strip of healthy granulation forming around the edges.

They feel that the remedy is a specific.

Second.—A railroad brakesman whose arm—a year ago—had a fearful wound received between the coupling heads of two cars, and who has since suffered from inflammation, from time to time, to such a degree that the whole arm from the wrist to the shoulder was swollen to double its natural size, which was stricken by a fragment of the iron that completely shattered the bone of the fore-arm, and that fracture were immediately treated with dry earth, and the freedom from pain and the almost entire absence of swelling has been as marked in his case as in the others. Without the dressing the latter would have been painful and extensive, and the fever of the system would have been developed, and the leg would have been lost. Now the wound is evidently healing rapidly, and the patient is, to all appearance, entirely free from fever, indicating, with positively, there is every reason to hope that the only result of the injury will be a stiff joint.

Third.—Another brakeman suffering from a severe compound injury in his upper leg, in addition, but received within a few days, was immediately treated with dry earth, and the offensive exudation has entirely prevented inflammation, and a healthy healing of the flesh and knitting of the bones has commenced in less than the time usually required.

Fourth.—Some time since, on a Friday last, had three of his fingers nearly cut off and his hand terribly torn by a horse-power hay cutter, since the first application of the dry earth a few hours after the accident; he has been free from pain, and he will save his hand.

Fifth.—Another brakeman, engaged in uncoupling up condemned shells exploded one that was charged. The powder burned his face and hands, and one piece of iron, a fragment of which was struck by a fragment of the iron that completely shattered the bone of the knee-pan, and the fracture were immediately treated with dry earth, and the freedom from pain and almost entire absence of swelling has been as marked in his case as in the others. Without the dressing the knee would have been swollen and inflamed, and the leg would have been lost. Now the wound is evidently healing rapidly, and the patient is, to all appearance, entirely free from fever, indicating, positively, there is every reason to hope that the only result of the injury will be a stiff joint.

Sixth.—Within a few days a woman was brought to the hospital with her nose and a badly burned part of her body very severely and dangerously burned. That she could escape living for weeks appeared beyond hope. Her mother her eye was closed and calm and her voice was strong, and when the doctor asked her how she felt, she said she was a great deal better, and that she had no pain.

Seventh.—Last Wednesday an office breast was removed for cancer, and the wound was dressed with dry earth. It is now healthy granulating, and has been no inflammation and no suppuration, and this woman has calm and happy days and nights, and is entirely relieved—spoke for more than her chosen words in thankfulness for her relief.

Surely, in the opinion of the Board of Curators of the Pennsylvania Hospital (in Philadelphia), who has conferred the greatest benefit on the human race that has ever been given to one man to accomplish, we must refer our thanks to the senior surgeon of the Pennsylvania Hospital for the valuable application of the invention to the saving of life and limb, and to the alleviation of unspeakable suffering.

And the end, I trust, is not yet. It seems inevitable that the thousands of unwilling must give up their pain and their offensiveness at this magic touch of mother earth, and it is true that its contagion spreads from its exhalations, may we not hope that Dr. Hewson has found in that of Mr. Moule his true "fellow laborer" Respectively,

GEO. E. WARING, Jr.

New York, February 24, 1869.

The Cannibal Fish of South America.

The book of Don Rambon Paez, on *Life in the Llanos of Venezuela*, describes the strange fish of the waters of that country. The gymnotus, or electric eel, can stun a man by a single stroke, and that has content at the distance of a sixty-armiment. The payara has two or more large, sharp teeth, which cut like a razor, and inflict a gash almost as severe as that of a sabre. But the most dreaded of all is a little creature of the shape and size of a carp, and from its fero-ious habits, the *cerdo*, or cannibal. Its vast numbers and insatiable appetite render the rivers in many parts impassable to men who would face the crocodile and the alligator. The author on several occasions admired himself by embowering his secure specimens of this extraordinary fish. Hooks were no use. Lines were bitten in twain, or broken through in an instant; even the hooks themselves were easily severed by the shark-like teeth which can penetrate iron or copper wire with apparent ease. But by digging a strip of tough ox-hide into the water, he succeeded in hooking a number of the tenacious cattles into his canoe; and then, in a moment, all were embarrassed, if not endangered, by the savage attacks of his untameable captives. We gave the cannibal fish a wide berth ever after, and left another's wounds.

Each time one of these cattles were hauled in shore, half a dozen or more of these little pests were to be seen jumping in the crowd, their jaws white open, and their eyes glaring in a furious way, especially the meshes of the nets, which they soon tore to pieces with their sharp-pointed gnaw teeth, arranged in the same manner as those of the shark, are so strong that neither copper, steel, nor even iron wire can resist them. The smallest any red substance, blood especially, seems to rouse their sanguinary appetite; and in their usually gentle disposition, they are extremely dangerous for man or beast to enter the water in which even a scratch upon their bodies. Horses wounded with the spur are particularly exposed to their attacks, and so fright'ul is their voracity, that if the most immediate assistance is rendered, the flesh soon penetrate the abdomen of the animal and specific relation of *membranous*—tripe-like, their application of *membranous*—tripe-like. There are other varieties of the cannibal in the rivers of the Llanos, but none so bold and bloodthirsty as this, singularly fond of human flesh. A negro given an account of the chief of a band of brigands being struck down in the midst of his career, and his body left to the mercy of the vultures, being fastened by an iron chain to a fixed ring or staple, his companions, in the night, came and carried away the body. The next morning, on the usual hour, the vultures were to be seen